

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☒
no ☐

Property Name: Benzinger Cottage, Rosewood Hospital Inventory Number: BA-2272

Address: Rosewood Hospital City: Owings Mills Zip Code:

County: Baltimore County USGS Topographic Map: Reisterstown

Owner: DHMH Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes

Tax Parcel Number: Tax Map Number: Tax Account ID Number:

Project: Agency:

Site visit by MHT staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: Date:

Is the property located within a historic district? ☒ yes ☐ no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: BA-2261
NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☒ yes Name of District: Rosewood Hospital Center
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☒ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐ yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district) Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

MHT Library # BA 146 "Rosewood Center: Market & Feasibility Analysis (Draft Report)" (1991)

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Date of construction: 1935

Prepared by: Notter, Finegold, & Alexander for MHT

Date Prepared:

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

MHT Comments

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

BA-2272

1935

Benzinger Building

Public

Rosewood Hospital Center

Owings Mills

The Benzinger Building is a two-and-one-half-story stone structure with a steep pitched hipped roof, and two-story metal sunporches on the east and west facades. Designed by Henry Powell Hopkins, it was built in 1935 to house male patients with aggressive and destructive behavioral problems.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Harry M. Benzinger Building

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Rosewood Hospital Center ☐ not for publication

city, town Owings Mill ☐ vicinity of congressional district 2

state Maryland county Baltimore

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Hospital

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

street & number 201 West Preston Street telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber

street & number folio

city, town Towson state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

ite ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. BA-2272

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Benzinger Building, constructed in 1935, is a stone two-and-one-half story structure with a steeply pitched hipped roof. The multi-colored stone is rough-cut and laid in irregular courses, with grey smooth-cut stone used for the water table and string/course and dark brown and grey stone used for the jack arches above the windows. The building is oriented to the west and is nine bays wide and three bays deep.

The windows have 20/20 sash on the first story, 15/20 on the second story and are barred from the inside. The hipped roof dormers have paired 12/12 windows. Atop the slate covered roof is an octagonal cupola with pyramidal roof, ball finial, and lowered sides separated by paired Doric pilasters.

There is a two story sunporch on the east and west facades with four two-story stone Doric piers. The stone entablature is plain, save for rosettes above the piers, and there is a modillioned cornice. A wooden Chinese-Chippendale style railing runs along the top of the flat-roofed porches. The porches are screened with a grid of heavy metal bars. Framing the entrance on the west facade is an elaborate and unusual metal Georgian style doorway composed of fluted Doric pilasters topped by a plain entablature and dentilled pediment. There is no access from the outside to the east porch.

The entrance on the south side is framed by a Georgian composition in smooth cut stone and is flanked by pilasters of pyramidal faced stone with caps and topped by a large modillioned swans-neck pediment in the center of which is an engaged fluted urn with ball finial.

8. Significance

Survey No. BA-2272

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1935 Builder/Architect Henry Powell Hopkins

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Benziner Cottage for Boys was built in 1935 and was the second cottage specifically designed for patients with aggressive and destructive behavioral problems. It is also significant as the first large-scale commission at Rosewood by the Baltimore architect Henry Powell Hopkins.

Hopkins executed several important commissions for the State in the 1930s and 1940s including buildings at Springfield State Hospital, the University of Maryland and was responsible for the remodelling and restoration of the Old Treasury Building and State Office Buildings in Annapolis.

A well-known architect practicing in the Georgian Revival Style, Hopkins usually produced designs for buildings in brick, but probably decided that Benzinger Cottage should be of stone construction to harmonize with the earlier buildings. While still institutional in character, the Benziner Cottage possesses an architectural sophistication not seen in the earlier stone buildings at Rosewood. Smooth faced stone is used for the dentilled cornice, pilasters and elaborate Georgian style entrance. The full-blown academic classicism of this building is not often seen in institutional buildings of this nature and the workmanship and design of many of the architectural embellishments is exceptional.

Benziner Cottage was named for Harry Benzinger, a member of the Board of Visitors at Rosewood.

Survey No. BA-2272

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle scale _____

B

Zone Easting Northing

D

F

H

state	code	county	code
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city or town	Annapolis	state	Maryland	21401
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PS-2746

- 31 - DN

1901. 7/11. 1901. 7/11.

TELEPHONE: 547-0310



BA-2272
Benzinger Cottage
Rosewood Hospital Center
Owings Mill, Maryland
Reisterstown Quad.
USGS 7.5 Minute Series
Scale - 1:24,000

3.3 MI. TO MD. 130
BALTIMORE (JUNC. U.S. 1) 12 MI.

(COCKEYSVILLE)
5662 I NW

1.3 MI. TO MD. 129
5.2 MI. TO MD. 25

LE 2 MI.
11.85 MI.



BA-2272

Benzinger Cottage

Rosewood Hospital Center

Owings Mills, Maryland

East Elevation, Porch Detail

Don Jewell - 4/85 - Negatives at MHT



BA-2272

Benzinger Cottage

Rosewood Hospital Center

Owings Mills, Maryland

South Elevation

Don Jewell - 4/85 - Negatives at MHT



BA-2272

Benzinger Cottage

Rosewood Hospital Center

Owings Mills, Maryland

West Elevation, Porch Detail

Don Jewell - 4/85 - Negatives at MHT



BA-2272

Benzinger Cottage

Rosewood Hospital Center

Owings Mills, Maryland

West Elevation

Don Jewell - 4/85 - Negatives at MHT



BA-2272

Benzinger Cottage

Rosewood Hospital Center

Owings Mills, Maryland

Southwest Elevation, Detail of Door

Don Jewell - 4/85 - Negatives at MHT



BA-2272

Benzinger Cottage

Rosewood Hospital Center

Owings Mills, Maryland

West Elevation, Porch Detail

Don Jewell - 4/85 - Negatives at MHT